



CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS Office of the Council

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES SEPTEMBER 3, 2019

Call to Order: Mayor Bradley D. Sellers at 7:00p.m.

Attendance: Councilwoman Hagwood, Councilwoman Edwards, Councilwoman White, Councilman Howard, Councilman Anderson and Council President Mitchell
Roll Call: 6 Present

Motion to Excuse Councilman Stewart by Councilman Stewart, Seconded by Council President Mitchell
Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs

Prayer: Councilwoman Kimberly Edwards

Minutes: August 20, 2019 Regular Meeting
Motion to Approve by Councilwoman White, Seconded by Councilwoman Edwards
Roll Call: 5 Ayes; 0 Nays; 1 Abs

Departmental Reports: Mayor Sellers stated that Council should have a copy of the Departmental Reports in their possession. He stated that if they have any questions to please reach out to the individual Director. He stated that if they have additional questions, they can contact the Office of the Mayor as well for further discussion.

Residents' Requests and Comments:

Francine Wahome inquired if there are going to be special services for the seniors this fall and winter who are immobile and live alone. She remarked since she's been attending meetings she has asked if anything extra is done for the seniors.

Mayor Sellers responded that the City provides numerous things for seniors in the City. **Ms. Wahome** asked for a list of things that are done for seniors.

Mayor Sellers referred her to Senior & Civic Center Director Jennifer Lastery to provide her with a list.

Ms. Wahome asked what the City does for seniors that are bed-ridden and do not have any family to care for them. She commented that for two months these seniors will not be able to care for their property.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dorise Hagwood • Andrea Mitchell • Elona C. White
Walter Stewart • Matthew Howard • Stanley Anderson • Kimberly Hodge Edwards
Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council

Mayor Sellers replied that the City does not provide Health and Human Service advocacy but there are organizations and resources within the County that can be helpful to seniors.

Ms. Wahome stated that the Police Department and Fire Department are excellent because when they're needed, they're there.

Traci Mitchell, School Board President provided a few updates that she wanted to share with Council. She thanked Councilman Howard and Councilwoman Hagwood for attending the last School Board meeting and stated it means the world to the Board when they come to our meetings and share. She reminded Council that Superintendent Jolly will be speaking tomorrow at the event Jerome DuVal will talk about later and she hopes those able to attend will be there to support him. She reported that they received their final permit for demolition of the Highland Food Mart so it will go down at the end of the week. She announced that the football team will have their second game this Saturday at 2:00p.m. at Gilmore. She reported that they have a new football coach so she hopes people will come out and support.

***Recognition of Resigning Member of Planning Commission
Sam Alesci***

Mayor Sellers commented that he had the pleasure of growing up down the street from him. He stated that Mr. Alesci has been a stalwart in this community. He shared that he was asked to join Planning Commission by former Mayor Marcia Fudge in 2001 and after 18 years of hard service has decided to resign. Mayor Sellers joked that Mr. Alesci is a young man, a young 97!

<<Applause>>

Mayor Sellers explained that Mr. Alesci's job was to see the growth of the City no matter if the project was housing, commercial or industrial. He asked that another long-serving Planning Commission member, Janice Rox join them. He explained their responsibility is to ensure that projects meet this community's expectations and standards. He remarked that Mr. Alesci has held residents' and developers' feet to the fire!

<<Laughter>>

[Mayor Sellers presented a plaque to Sam Alesci that read *In Appreciation of your 18 Years of Dedicated Service, Devotion and Commitment to this City since July 17, 2001.* Mayor Sellers also presented Sam Alesci with a Key to the City and remarked that in his tenure as Mayor he can recall only presenting one or two keys so it is a rare occurrence.]

<<Applause>>

COUNCIL MEMBERS

**Dorise Hagwood • Andrea Mitchell • Elona C. White
Walter Stewart • Matthew Howard • Stanley Anderson • Kimberly Hodge Edwards
Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council**

Councilman Howard stated he has worked with Mr. Alesci for only a short period of time but in his tenure as Councilman he has held him to a certain standard. He joked that Mr. Alesci even offered to move on from his dress apparel and give him some of his old-school ties.

<<Laughter>>

He stated he has learned a lot from Mr. Alesci. He stated he is thankful that he has been able to service our community for so long and give us the type of standard that we deserve.

<<Applause>>

Mr Alesci commented he has lived in the City for 66 or 67 years, so a long time. He commended Mayor Sellers on having a great team including Council, advisors and all the people that make this a great City. He stated we all should stand and applaud our Mayor.

<<Applause>>

Mr. Alesci thanked everyone for their kindness, friendship and everything that we do. **Mayor Sellers** commented that Mr. Alesci is family to us and he has brought his own family and asked him to introduce who he brought with him.

Mr. Alesci introduced his daughter from Fairfield, Connecticut who was in for the weekend to help him back up his home. He commented that his son that lives in Pittsburgh came into town as well so he is really thankful.

Mr. Alesci's Daughter stated it was a surprise to hear this was happening. She commented that her dad is so humble and she came into town and helped him move a home of almost 60 years in a period of a couple days. She remarked how she stood in the backyard and recalled childhood memories that made her think of what the City does for young families. She thanked the City and emotionally stated she was very proud of her father.

<<Applause>>

Order of the Day:

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Ord. 2019-120 MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS**
AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN ACCESS AGREEMENT
WITH SHELLI S. LEWIS, OWNER OF THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 26802
RUE SAINT GABRIEL COURT IN THE CHATEAUX OF EMERY WOODS, PPN

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dorise Hagwood • Andrea Mitchell • Elona C. White
Walter Stewart • Matthew Howard • Stanley Anderson • Kimberly Hodge Edwards
Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council

763-08-081, TO HAVE ACCESS TO SAID PROPERTY TO SHOW PROSPECTIVE BUYERS OF SIMILAR PROPERTIES IN THE SAME SUBDIVISION.

Motioned by Councilwoman White, Passage by Councilwoman Edwards, Seconded by Councilwoman Hagwood

Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried

2. Ord. 2019-121

MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS

AUTHORIZING THE ASSESSMENT OF THE COST OF NUISANCE ABATEMENT PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 945 OF THE WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS CODIFIED ORDINANCES, INCLUDING ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS, UPON THE REAL ESTATE FROM WHICH THE NUISANCE ORIGINATED WHERE SUCH COSTS HAVE NOT BEEN PAID BY THE OWNER, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motioned by Council President Mitchell, Passage by Councilwoman Hagwood, Seconded by Councilwoman White

Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried

3. Ord. 2019-122

MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENDITURES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motioned by Councilman Howard, Passage by Councilwoman Edwards Seconded by Councilwoman White

Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried

4. Ord. 2019-123

MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A PERSONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH PROJECT MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS (PMC) TO PROVIDE OWNERS REPRESENTATIVE SERVICES FOR THE CONVERSION OF THE BUILDING LOCATED AT 4743 RICHMOND ROAD, WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, OHIO 44128 AND PURSUANT TO ARTICLE VI, SECTION 5 OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS.

Motioned by Councilwoman White, Passage by Councilwoman Edwards, Seconded by Councilwoman Hagwood

Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried

5. Ord. 2019-124

MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS

AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH GREAT LAKES EXPOSITION, INC. FOR CERTAIN RIDES FOR THE 2019 SUMMER

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dorise Hagwood • Andrea Mitchell • Elona C. White

Walter Stewart • Matthew Howard • Stanley Anderson • Kimberly Hodge Edwards

Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council

FESTIVAL PURSUANT TO ARTICLE VI, SECTION 5 OF THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Motioned by Councilwoman White, Passage by Councilwoman Hagwood, Seconded by Councilwoman Edwards
Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried**

6. Res. 2019-034

MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS

AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS TO ADOPT AND CERTIFY TO THE CUYAHOGA COUNTY FISCAL OFFICER THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Motioned by Councilwoman White, Passage by Councilwoman Hagwood, Seconded by Councilman Howard
Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried**

7. Res. 2019-035

CITY COUNCIL

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL EVENT OF WELCOMING WEEK TO TAKE PLACE SEPTEMBER 13, 2019 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 22, 2019 BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, OHIO

**Motioned by Council President Mitchell, Passage by Councilwoman White, Seconded by Councilwoman Edwards
Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried**

OLD BUSINESS

8. Ord. 2019-085

COUNCILMAN MATTHEW HOWARD (AS PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIR)
ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION OF OZELL DOBBINS OF DLP HOSPITALITY GROUP LLC DBA FLOODS RESTAURANT, REPRESENTING BINTU PATEL OF SAINATH LLC, FOR THE INSTALLATION OF SIGNAGE ON AN EXISTING POLE SIGN, LOCATED AT 4353 NORTHFIELD ROAD, WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, OHIO 44128, PPN 761-19-011.

1ST READ 7/16/2019

2ND READ 8/20/2019

3RD READ 9/3/2019

**Motioned by Councilwoman White, Passage by Councilman Howard, Seconded by Councilman Anderson
Roll Call: 5 Ayes; 1 Nay; 0 Abs – Motion Carried**

COUNCIL MEMBERS

**Dorise Hagwood • Andrea Mitchell • Elona C. White
Walter Stewart • Matthew Howard • Stanley Anderson • Kimberly Hodge Edwards
Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council**

ADD ONS

- 9. Res. 2019-036 MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS**
REJECTING THE BIDS RECEIVED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF EASTWOOD PARK LOCATED IN THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS FOR THE 2019 CUYAHOGA COUNTY SUPPLEMENTAL GRANT AWARD, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
Motioned by Council President Mitchell, Passage by Councilwoman White, Seconded by Councilwoman Hagwood
Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried
- 10. Res. 2019-037 MAYOR BRADLEY D. SELLERS**
AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENGAGE IN A SECOND PUBLIC BIDDING PROCESS TO ADVERTISE FOR AND SOLICIT COMPETITIVE BIDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF EASTWOOD PARK LOCATED IN THE CITY OF WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.
Motioned by Councilman Anderson, Passage by Councilwoman Hagwood, Seconded by Councilwoman White
Roll Call: 6 Ayes; 0 Nays; 0 Abs – Motion Carried

Judge Gayle Williams-Byers thanked Mayor Sellers and everyone in the City of Warrensville which is “near and dear to her heart.” She stated the City has welcomed her sister as one of its educators for more than two decades. She remarked that a year has not gone by that she has not volunteered with her for Dr. Seuss Day. She commented that the City will see her not at just Eastwood and John Dewey but on their streets, knocking on their doors and talking to their neighbors. She thanked the Mayor again and Council for allowing her to speak.

Announcements from the Directors:

Fire Department – Chief Herb Waugh wished everyone a good evening. He congratulated Mr. Alesci and stated we appreciate his service.

Economic Development – Director Jerome DuVal thanked Council for passing the legislation to rebid for the Eastwood Park Project. He announced that DaVita Kidney Care has their Open House September 11th at 10:00am. at 4670 Richmond Road, across from Gino’s. He announced the upcoming Business Forum will be tomorrow morning and they have over 100 businesses registered. He stated any business that wants to attend should contact him, and he will provide the information.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dorise Hagwood • Andrea Mitchell • Elona C. White
Walter Stewart • Matthew Howard • Stanley Anderson • Kimberly Hodge Edwards
Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council

Personnel Department – Director Nicole Johnson had nothing to report.

Chief of Staff - Kelli Wilson had nothing to report.

Police Department – Chief Wes Haynes had nothing to report.

Building Department – Commissioner Ben Brown had nothing to report.

Service Department – Director Ted Sims reminded everyone that the trash pickup will be delayed one day this week.

Civic & Senior Center – Dorothy Blackmon announced that Tuesday, September 17th, they will have a *Lunch & Learn* facilitated by Cleveland Clinic; Wednesday, September 18th, they will have *Wellness Wednesday* facilitated by Ahuja Hospital from 4-6p.m.; September 25th is the annual Health Fair with screenings, vendors and will hopefully have vision impairment this year. She announced that on Sunday, September 29th, they will have their first *Men Only Afternoon* and they will be showing the Browns v Ravens football game. Men ONLY!

Mayor Sellers asked if it is only for seniors.

Ms. Blackmon replied no but you have to be a “mature adult.”

<<Laughter>>

Lastly, she reported that on Thursday, October 10th we are going to have 40 seniors and they are going to the Amish Country for shopping.

Strategic Initiatives – Carletta Fellows thanked those who were able to attend the *Safe Routes to School* public meeting. She reported that the maps and index cards will be at the library starting tomorrow until October 11th. She reported there is also a map at the YMCA for the same duration of time; at John Dewey Elementary School from September 4th -12th; Westwood from September 13th-23rd; at Eastwood from September 24th- October 2nd; and Warrensville Heights Middle School from October 3rd- 11th. She shared the information will then transition to our other municipalities to collect information and comments on what *Safer Routes to Schools* should look like for the City of Warrensville Heights.

Finance Department – Director Karen Howse had nothing to report.

Announcements from Council:

Councilwoman Edwards thanked Mr. Alesci for his service stating he was a truly dedicated resident to the community and he will be missed. She reported that there will be a Finance Committee Meeting on Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 5:00p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dorise Hagwood • Andrea Mitchell • Elona C. White

Walter Stewart • Matthew Howard • Stanley Anderson • Kimberly Hodge Edwards

Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council

Councilwoman Hagwood wished everyone a good evening and thanked them for always attending the meetings and supporting Council and the Administration.

Councilman Howard thanked everyone for attending as we wrap the summer up. He announced the Tri-City Democratic Club will be having a *Meet the Candidates* event that he will be hosting along with School Board member, Millicent Gaiter at Eastwood on September 21st at 12:30p.m. He commented that it is very important for people to attend this event as it is an opportunity to speak to a candidate that is running for office. He stated we have to know the people that are being elected and hold them accountable. He remarked that often people will stray when they have their own agendas so it is important to hold them accountable. He reported that the Clarkwood Estates Residents Association meeting will be on September 26th at 7:00p.m. at the Civic Center. He thanked School Board President, Traci Mitchell for her kind words.

Councilman Anderson wished everyone a good evening. He announced the Ward 6 Community Meeting is tomorrow at the Civic & Senior Center from 7:00p.m.-9:00p.m.

Councilwoman White thanked everyone for attending the meeting including Judge Williams-Byers. She congratulated Mr. Alesci and stated when she was chair of Planning Commission for six years, she really got to know the whole team. She commented they are a strong group of people who are dedicated.

Law Department

City Prosecutor Marlene Ridenour had nothing to report.

Council President's Comments

Council President thanked everyone for attending the meeting as it is a nice evening and they chose to spend it with us. She commended Mr. Alesci for adding a lot of value to Planning Commission. She reported August 21st represented 400 years since many of our ancestors arrived in this land and we seldom think about those who were not allowed to read, write and vote. She stated the different things that are happening in our City and other places in this nation are wonderful. She commented for people to come out to *Meet the Candidates* events and things of that nature mean so much more because for so long we did not have the opportunity. She announced that the Ward 2 Community Meeting will be held at Eastwood before the *Meet the Candidates* event. Lastly, she gave a shout out to the Service Department and Fire Department for the help at the Eastwood Homeowners Association.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Sellers recognized Mr. White and Ms. Tullos from Civil Service Commission and Ms. Rox from Planning Commission in attendance at the meeting. She acknowledged School Board

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dorise Hagwood • Andrea Mitchell • Elona C. White
Walter Stewart • Matthew Howard • Stanley Anderson • Kimberly Hodge Edwards
Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council

President Traci Mitchell, Vice President Ray Freeman and member Mimi Gaiter in attendance at the meeting. He recognized City Prosecutor, Marlene Ridenour for filling in for Law Director Teresa Beasley and Assistant Law Director Keisha Hughes as she does all the prosecution in the City.

He commended the School District for continuing to "push the envelope" and commented on seeing the new school being built as you drive down Clarkwood and referred to it as "massive." He reported that Warrensville may have a "good problem" as it is the only school in Cuyahoga County that is gaining students. He stated that Superintendent Jolly is building a pathway of what needs to be taught and the children are receptive to it. He reported that they are waiting for the latest school report to come out and have high expectations. Mayor Sellers remarked that it will make the community stronger and the real estate will go up in value.

He invited those who are interested to attend the Warrensville Heights Business Forum to learn how to grow your business and about the different businesses in the City. He announced that Altercare is closing by the end of October so they have 60 people they have to relocate. He stated it is 15 acres by the freeway. He reported that BJ's did not renew its lease so there are 4 or 5 more years left on it. He reported that the Mexican restaurant, Abuelo's at Harvard Park is closing and the space could become a Starbucks and an Outback Steakhouse. He stated that the Richmond Road corridor is going to be the business corridor of this community.

He reported at the last Council meeting, legislation passed that allowed the City to relocate City Hall. He reported the City has entered into a deal to do the new municipal complex at the South University building on Richmond Road which is a 40, 000 square foot building. He remarked that we will now be in an ADA compliant building. He commented that we are trying to get ahead of the curve. He remarked that change sometimes is difficult but also necessary to stay relevant.

Adjournment at 8:08p.m.

9-17-2019

APPROVED



Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council

COUNCIL MEMBERS
Dorise Hagwood • Andrea Mitchell • Elona C. White
Walter Stewart • Matthew Howard • Stanley Anderson • Kimberly Hodge Edwards
Amber Joyner, Clerk of Council